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Polit Pamph. vol 141.



DELIBERATION.



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DELIBERATION.



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DELIBERATION:

O R,

The Substance of what may be spoken

I N T H E

* * * * * of * * * * *

In the Course of this Month:

Principal Speakers,

L. C * * * * *, D. R * * * * *,

E. G * * * * *, D. B * * * * *,

E. S * * * * *, D. G * * * * *,

E. S * * * * *, E. S * * * * *,

L. L * * * * *, E. E * * * * *,

B—s.

B. P * * * * *,

B. S * A * * * * *,

B. L * * * * *,

Ghost of L—d S—m—s.

Io anche son Pittore.

Sold by D. BROWNE, Catherine-Street, Strand.

M,DCC,LXXIX.

DECLARATION

OF

THE SIGNATURE OF THE

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DELIBERATION.

THE House of ——— having met, agree-
ably to their adjournment last month, prayers
having been read by the B——p of L——, the
C—— took his seat as Speaker; when the D—
of R—— arose, and spoke as follows :

My L——s,

A severe indisposition hindered
me from attending my duty with your L——
before your late recess. I could not but with the
utmost concern, feel myself attacked by a disorder,
at a period so critical and alarming; when the
very existence of this state seemed to be tottering,
and had the strongest appearances of its total
dissolution. Thank heaven, I am once more
able

able to appear again in this august assembly ! But I must do justice to my own feeling by declaring, that my absence has filled me with the most poignant grief : Many measures have been proposed, and carried into execution, which I would have opposed with all my poor abilities—but retrospect is now in vain. Let me longer lose time, but call your attention to an object of the greatest consequence to us, as a maritime power. I do now, on this early day, make a motion, That an address be presented to his M——, desiring that he will give proper directions to the Lords Commissioners of the A——, to give into this House a list of the R—— Navy, with an account of what different stations they are now upon ; also an account of what stores are at present in the magazines and store-houses at our Dock Yards ; likewise an account of what ships are now building, repairing, &c. &c. when they will be ready for sea ; also what prospect there is that we shall be able to man such ships, now that our commerce is annihilated, and the West India trade of France is carried to the highest pitch ever known ; as may be proved by the triumphant return of their Merchantmen to their ports, whilst our are become a prey to their Men of War and Privateers.

Nothing

Nothing but the purest patriotism suggests this motion. Have I any patrimony to preserve in that country? Did I enjoy any title under that Prince? Did any of my Predecessors draw their first breath in that climate? Were any of them ever brought into this country by their seductive charms, to captivate a doating, enervated K—g, to betray his own country to its greatest enemy and antagonist? Did ever any of my race recieve benefits from the Crown, to the prejudice of the People? Does the poor, contemptable sum I receive from one of the almost indispenfible necessities of life, any way effect the lower class of mankind, and render even indigence still more griping? Did not I, when a principal Officer of State, act with the greatest coolness and judgment? did not I treat every person that had business to transact with me, with complacency, affability and politeness? When in that station, had I the effrontery to insult the Prince on the Throne? If I am acquitted to you, as my conscience acquits myself, I must be happy.

But have I nothing to be reproached with? It may be said I have ambition. I plead guilty to the charge. I have ambition, great ambition; but of what kind is it? Why of the noblest sort; an ambition to serve my country, without fee or reward.

reward. Have I not often pledged myself, that I am ready whenever called upon, to accept any office his M—— shall appoint me to, on these terms? Can there be a stronger proof of my disinterested than, this? I cannot help wishing for such an event, to convince you how much I have the welfare and real interest of these Kingdoms at heart; and that I shall be ready, when called upon, to spill every drop of my blood in its defence. Has not my conduct clearly demonstrated such to be my sentiments? Have I not from the first establishment of the Militia on its present footing, attended minutely to the proper training to arms, that they might be ready when called upon, to act with honour to themselves, as Englishmen? Did I not, in the present year, by inuring them by former services; draw them together to act with peace and unanimity as one man? Are these trifling services, that claim no reward?—Yes, there is a great, a glorious reward in view, which fires my soul! For on a day when, harrassed and oppressed with cares for Britain's glory, sleep stole upon my senses, in G—d—'s shady bower, three visionary sprites appeared, and said, or seemed to say, All hail, R—d!— a second, All hail, Noble L—x! — the third, All hail, K——g that shalt be! — But, my
L—ds,

L—ds, I deviate from my first motion, which I hope will be seconded; and acquaint your L—ps, I have more of the same nature to make, when this is properly discussed, which I now offer to your consideration.

D. of B——. My L—, I rise to second the motion made by the Noble D—, and have only to add that, as an amendment, I should recommend to your L——ps, that, in building our Men of War, great attention should be given, that the Stern posts are of prime timber, and firmly fixed; for I have known, for want of this, many ships have been in danger of being lost: I must therefore recommend, that great attention is paid to Stern-posts.

E—I S ——h. As I have the honour to preside at that Board, from whence the information moved for, and seconded by the N— D ——, must be drawn; I can't defer a minute, to declare to your L——ps, that I shall oppose the motion, and give my reasons in very few words. Not to take up your L ——ps time, my reasons are, That it would be very impolitic to enter into such a detail, and to have it produced, and read in public at this juncture: Such intelligence is what our enemies now want, and it would be giving

B
them

them a sword to plunge into our own bowels. If I should live long enough to see a general peace established, and which I most ardently desire, as much as any L—— in this house, I then shall be ready to produce any, or all the papers, that has ever passed through my hands officially; and wish to have my conduct, whilst I have presided at the A——y Board, examined by the severest scrutiny. I am conscious, my L——ds of having done my duty; and to have discharged the trust I am honoured with by my P——e, to the advancing of his glory, and the general benefit of my fellow subjects.

E——l S——l——ne. I do not much wonder, my L——ds, that the Noble L——d who spoke last should endeavour, by every stratagem, to conceal from your L——ps, all information that ought to come from the Board at which he presides; convinced of his not having paid that attention to the duties of his office, that he should have done; and, perhaps, at last, satisfied in himself, that, when he took the great task of the superintendence of the grand Bulwark of the Nation, he thought it a matter of much less weight, than he now finds it; and it is still encreasing. I much fear it will at last prove an Atlas, and crush him to atoms. Great experience, great attention, great application, is required,

required, to fill the Noble L——d's place, in a proper manner : It should also, my L——ds, be directed by a man who has had the greatest experience on that element, on which those are to act, who receive their orders from him. Indeed, I must say, I could wish to see some of our oldest and ablest Admirals, at the Board : They must be supposed to have much greater insight into naval matters, than any gentleman not bred the sea. Besides, by employing them in this manner, it would call the younger admirals into action, and give a spur and emulation amongst the Captains to exert themselves on all occasions against the enemy, in order to be noted at the next promotion. I hope, my L——ds, I shall live to see the day when this will be done ; as I must confess, I think it the best means to promote a general thirst of glory, amongst all ranks in the Navy. If we are now to be deprived of such papers as we desire from the A—— Board, when the time comes that we can procure them, I promise the Noble L——, I shall not forget that the investigation he wishes for, shall take place.

Let me draw your L——ps attention to another great object, in our present distressed and forlorn situation. Where, my L——ds, are the supplies to be found, to carry on the present very expensive

War we are embarked in? My L—ds, you must be sensible that it will be an impossibility to raise a sum any way adequate to the demands that will be made, to support our present establishment of the Navy, and Army. Where are they to come from, now our commerce is entirely ruined? Let us, my L—ds, before we embark farther in this destructive and horrid business, look round us a little, and examine from whence the resources are to be drawn, to supply this foolish, mad and thoughtless determination of the M——y.

Let us for a moment turn our eyes to the present commercial interest of this once flourishing empire; in what state is the E— I— Company; is it not my L—s in the most alarming and ruinous one? Have any of their ships arrived safe to this country? Are they now sending out the usual number they generally do annually? But in how much more alarming predicament are their concerns in India. Is it not Madras at this very instant besieged by the French? And is it not probable it will fall the first victim, to the rage of our enemies, and be followed by all the other valuable possessions they have in that part of the world? Are not the revenue they receive from the Natives there by treaties with the Nabobs; almost annihilated? From what hidden stores are that
Company

Company to draw forth the amazing sums, they are to furnish Government with, for the renewal of their Charter, or towards the Supplies for the current year? Let us now, my L—ds, turn ourselves to view the West Indies. Are not the Merchants in that branch of trade, all in very precarious circumstances? Have any of their very large and rich fleets arrived in Great Britain or Ireland? and what have the commodities they have imported, produced? Have they defrayed freight and insurance only? But enough of this lamentable subject! But permit me, my L—ds to drop one tear to the manes of American Commerce: But on this theme words are vain; and what I feel within my breast, cannot be painted. Let silence tell the rest.

I have been, my L—d upbraided with my attachment to Dissenters, because I have shewn some marks of attention to two gentlemen who would adorn any sect or party: One of whom has demonstrated very clearly to all the World, that this Kingdom is totally unable to support a War with America alone, much more when they were assisted by France. Has he not irrefragably proved that we are absolutely in a state of Bankruptcy; and that without the most speedy and effectual efforts, Britannia must shortly give up her last breath?

breath? Does not such a Patriot as this deserve a Statue to be erected to his merit? Would to God it were in my power to do it in such a manner that it might plainly appear to be a testimony of national gratitude to a Financier! whose abilities have raised his fame higher than that of Sully, Colbert, Law, or the present Premier. My other worthy friend, who honours me with his conversation, has abilities; although I must own that I think his late Dissertation on Spirit or Matter, are rather dealing with edge tools; and that he shines with more distinguished lustre, when he investigates the properties of Air, or adjusting a point of Grammar. There is another gentleman now abroad in a neighbouring State, that would make a great and glorious triumvirate: But, alas, his virtues will not permit him to reside among us.

L. S*****. Although the Noble L—d who spoke last, possesses the power of painting characters in striking colours; this time, I think, his L——p has rather deviated from the probable: for I have the satisfaction to acquaint your L——ps that the supplies for the present year, are not so enormous, but that the Minister has already had offers of a larger sum than will be wanted for the current year.

L. E.

L. E*****, I must confess, my L—ds, I expected to have had more information from the Noble E—— who spoke last. I flattered myself that he would have particularly confuted the many assertions the Noble E—I who delivered his sentiments so freely on our national disgrace, and most wretched desperate situation, by which military honours cannot be obtained by men of noble principles. I once flattered myself, that I should have made a considerable figure in that line ; for which reason I sacrificed ease and pleasure, to seek danger amidst the storms of the Frigid Zone. But I must now reluctantly say,

Farewell the neighing steed, and the shrill trump,
The spirit-stirring drum, th' ear-piercing fife,
The royal banner, and all quality,
Pride, Pomp, and circumstance of glorious war !

L. L——n. The Noble E—I who spoke last, must much regret the occasion he has lost, of displaying his talents, in a line wherein it is not to be doubted but he would have shone with great eclat : But as his opposition to Government arose in the first place from a difference of sentiment, with respect to the measures adopted regarding America ; so now we should expect they would subside, as the ancient and inveterate enemy of these kingdoms has thrown
off

off the mask, and mean to stab this country in its vitals, through the side of America. I shall now, therefore, hope to hear his L—p will soon be in action, against our insidious, perfidious enemy the French; and, should the Spaniard choose to join his assistance to them and the Americans, against this country, I shall hope to see the achievements of the Noble E— wrought in tapestry, to be hung up as an ornament in this House, when those noble exploits performed by his great ancestor, shall be, by time, in want of a succession, supplied by a family, always distinguished by faithfulness and loyalty to their Sovereigns.

D. of G—n. The Noble L— to whom I answer in reply, I know to be very well versed in historical Facts; therefore his L—p must well know, that the illustrious Princess who employed the great ancestor of the L—d alluded to, and by whose courage and skill the Spanish Armada was rendered abortive, was an excellent judge of men and things. Nor was my illustrious Ancestor, from whom I boast to descend, inferior to her in many respects. She had her favorites, Leicester, Essex, Montjoy, Raleigh: So had he; Gwin, Querouaille, Villers. It must be acknowledged she did not enlarge her dominions; but did she diminish them, she did not sell Dunkirk; but she preserved Calais?
She

She did not shut up the Exchequer; but she always found one in her subjects pockets. I did once, myself, think I was capable to rule that stupendous machine — I essayed it — I found it too heavy for my shoulders — And, I resigned it. Since which, at my leisure hours, I have had time to reflect on what passed during my Administration; and I am not ashamed to own, that I feel infinite regret for the part that I then took, with regard to the conduct of this Country to its Colonies. I do not think it a shame for any man to confess an error. I acted at that time from what I thought the interest of my Country. I have since had additional light thrown on my mind—I can't kick against the pricks—I must obey the dictates of conscience.—And I look upon it as the best proof a man can give of his understanding, to acknowledge a mistake of his judgment.

E. G—r. I must acquiesce with the Noble D—that nothing does more honour to a man's understanding, than an open confession of any error of judgment. The dispute of this Country with its Colonies, should have been weighed with great judgment and deliberation; and I must declare it as my opinion, if the first duties and stamps laid on America, had been prosecuted with a proper degree of vigour and spirit, seconded by a firmness

at home, we should not have experienced the disagreeable contest, we are now engaged in; and if proper measures had been adopted, under his G—e's administration, we might, in all probability, have been spared the trouble of entering on so unpleasing a subject this day.

B. of P——h. I rise with the greatest reluctance to deliver my sentiments in this days debate, but humanity, and every tie that distinguishes the Christian religion, calls me up. I feel, I feel, agonizing at every pore, for the interest of the religion I profess. What, then, must I suffer, when the pageantry of Popery is introduced by Act of P——t, into any part of the British dominions! The least indulgence to Popery, may be attended with the most fatal consequences. Therefore I must declare myself against the least approach to the idolatry of the Romish church. As to our dear brethren, the natives of America, they have always approved themselves true and firm protestants: Witness, in the last century, when they first settled in New England; with what mildness and clemency did they treat the inoffensive poor Quakers, that fled from persecution, to find a poor hovel, and scrip of ground among them; how did their bowels yearn with sympathetic feelings for common sufferings. I dread the effusion of
blood.

blood. My soul pants for peace, as the roe after the water brooks. But, where is it to be found? Not in the sanguinary methods you propose. Withdraw your army and troops, from our dear brethren in affliction. Send to them the Olive Branch, or Aaron's Rod: If you send the latter, perhaps by mild persuasion, and unaffected eloquence, they may deign to receive your Messenger. If my poor services may hope for an acceptance, I shall, with pleasure, be the messenger of this Golden Branch. I anticipate the happy moment when, surrounded with crouds of men, unused to all the disagreeable offices of low life, will hail the angel of peace—that blessed moment of peace, when Fishers of Cod and Whales will be converted to fishers of Men; and I shall lead them on to a full enjoyment of curing Salt Fish, and curing Whale Oil.

I would now, my L—ds, divest myself of my Mitre and Crozier, to join in a Cruisade, in so laudable an undertaking. We were, my L—ds of this Bench, originally Fishermen: Let us not be ashamed of our first origin: Let us, my L—ds, bring it back to its primitive institution, and shew all the World we are not ashamed to own from whence we sprung. For my own part, I see the futility of all the World holds in estimation; and

shall be ready to resign all power and influence, when the good of my country demands it.

B. of L——n. I am happy to find so much public virtue yet existing in this Country. Was there ever a more shining proof of it, even in the Roman Senate? A Reverend Member of this Bench, offers to resign all his emoluments, for the Public. O glorious Patriotism! How does the great idea strike my soul! Oh, unexampled instance of magnanimity! What may we not in time hope for; when the law goeth forth from Sion, and peace and righteousness from Jerusalem! But, amidst the laudable zeal the Rev. L—d expresses for our American brethren, I hope he will not be less attentive to the tender consciences of our brethren at home; and that he will endeavour to procure a redress of what may be alleviated among ourselves. I hope he will not refuse to join, in a Reform of our Liturgy, and Articles of Religion; and if a Subscription is necessary, let it be formed from Scripture only. For my own part I must confess, that I am of Chillingworth's Opinion,—The Bible alone is the Religion of Protestants.

B. of S. A—. It must be allowed, my L—ds, that I have been at least consistent in my conduct, and opinion, with regard to America: Although
I now

I now much fear, that the ideas adopted with respect to that subject, were taken up without a proper thorough examination: But as it has ever been the rule of our sacred Function, never to give up a claim that they could support, it must appear that I have not deviated from the general conduct of my brethren.

L. C——. Before I presided in this House, my conduct, for many years, has all tended to the support of the present M——y, independent of the emoluments I enjoyed under Government. My line of conduct was the result of my private opinion, in which I shall persevere: And I now declare that, was I in this House, without any appointment from his M——y, I should act and speak in the manner I do at present; for I trust that every man that knows me, believes I act from principle, and not from any views of interest or party.

D. of R———. I have not the least doubt of the disinterestedness of the Noble L——d that spoke last: But alas, my L——ds, whilst we are debating here, we are undone as a Nation: Our manufacturers are starving; our landed estates are of no value; Commerce is destroyed. I have now in my hands a letter addressed to the Premier, proving that we lose annually half a Million of money,

money, only by the Newfoundland trade; and other branches of trade are in the same predicament: I'en fin, my L—ds, we are an undone people.—What groan is that!

Angels and ministers of grace defend us!

Be thou a spirit of health, or goblin damn'd?

Thou com'st in such a questionable shape,

That I will speak to thee.

Let me not burst in ignorance, but tell

Why thy canoniz'd bones, hearfed in death,

Have burst their cearments? Why thy sepulchre,

Hath op'd his ponderous and marble jaws,

To cast thee up again.

Ghost of L— S—m—s,

But that I am forbid,

I could a tale unfold, whose lightest word

Would harrow up thy soul, freeze thy young
blood;

But this eternal blazon must not be.

Nothing but the love of my country could have induced me to apply to Pluto, for permission to revisit this spot; in which I presided, I may say without vanity, with some degree of reputation. My spirit now enjoys peace and happiness in the Elyian fields; and I have the satisfaction of conversing with Lycurgus, Solon, Numa, Cato, Cicero, and the noble band of lawgivers and
statemen,

statesmen, that have adorned ancient and modern times. I am now permitted to appear, to request your L——ps would drop all interested and party attachments; and that you would join with unanimity, to advance the glory and reputation of your native country: For, my L——ds, it is a truth, That a Kingdom divided in itself cannot stand.

F I N I S.

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